

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re patent application of: |) | |
| |) | Before The Examiner |
| Thomas A. Zdeblick, et al. |) | |
| |) | Not Assigned |
| Ser. No. Not Assigned |) | |
| |) | Art Unit Unassigned |
| Filed Herewith |) | |
| |) | Atty Docket No. 4002-2954/PC393.06 |
| |) | |
| ARTIFICIAL DISC IMPLANT |) | February 28, 2002 |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

As a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified U. S. Patent Application, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/586,308 filed June 2, 2000, please enter the following. Please charge any fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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